



**The City of
Hopewell, Virginia**
Hopewell Police Department
John Keohane, Chief of Police
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MEDIA RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Suspect Charged with Several Hopewell Commercial Robberies

Thanks to an intensive investigation and tips from the community, Hopewell Police have charged Harry Brantley, Jr. 23 of Hopewell, in connection with several armed commercial robberies in the City of Hopewell.

Brantley was arrested on Friday afternoon by the US Marshals Task Force for malicious wounding and robbery in Prince George County and the McDonald's robbery on New Year's Eve in Hopewell. Information on the suspect developed by Hopewell investigators led to a successful joint investigation by Prince George County and City detectives.

Brantley has been charged with four (4) additional commercial robberies and use of a firearm during the commission of a felony at the following locations in the City of Hopewell:

- 12/02/2011 - Family Dollar, 3317 Oaklawn Blvd.
- 12/16/2011 - Dollar General, 3501 Oaklawn Blvd.
- 12/18/2011 - Village Washerette, 400 N. 6th St.
- 12/18/2011 - Community Food Mart, 325 S. Mesa Dr.

Brantley remains the main suspect in 2-3 commercial robberies that are still currently under investigation.

Brantley started his robbery spree on December 02, 2011. He was known as the "paper bag bandit" in earlier robberies, however at some point he changed his look and the handgun became clearly visible in later commercial robberies. "When the paper bag robberies just suddenly stopped, the exposed weapon and different clothing look robberies began, investigators soon became aware we were dealing with the same suspect even though his style and look changed," said Chief John Keohane.

"Thanks to good investigative work and relentless follow-up by our investigators, we were able to arrest the suspect in these commercial robberies and make our business corridors safe for our residents, business owners and employees," Chief Keohane said.

Any person(s) who have information on these or any other crimes occurring in the City of Hopewell may contact the Hopewell/Prince George Crime Solvers at (804) 541-2202. You can also text-a-tip anonymously. Simply add "274637 (CRIMES)" to your Contacts list on your cellular phone and then text "igotcha" along with your message/tip. You will then be provided an ID number that you will use when checking the status of your tip OR picking up your reward.

(Suspect photograph and surveillance pictures are below)



Harry Brantley Jr.



McDonald's Surveillance footage of offender



Community Food Mart Surveillance footage of offender